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History of an American Indian

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The Pine Ridge Indian reservation received a lot of assistance during the thanksgiving holiday. To help combat the poverty that strikes the Pine Ridge Indian reservation; countries including France, Italy, Australia, Germany, along with Running Strong and Wal-Mart pitched in to donate turkeys. Jeri Baker who was part of the one spirit organization structured the effort with support from the commodity program along with various Tribal officials. The One Spirit organization is well known for their monthly food distribution were over $15,000 in food is distributed. According to the One Spirit turkey drive, they gathered 900 turkeys and divided them amongst the districts with Fred Pond delivering them from Wal-Mart. There were a total of 3 turkey distributions, and the cap offices would make a list of who has received a turkey and who has not. The turkeys were given to elders and those who were most in need. With the help of many people One Spirit, the OST Commodity program, and Tribal officials were able to help many families in need on the Pine Ridge Indian reservation.

When I first came across this article I was intrigued and thankful to see all of the help and giving that was done. Donating a turkey to someone seems like no big deal but in reality it’s more than just a food item. It’s a holiday and with the help of the One Spirit organization, Commodity program, and the tribal officials many were able to enjoy the season. It was amazing to see all of the different countries who were involved and even the assistance of Walmart and Running Strong. I would have never even guessed that Italy, France, Australia, or even Germany would have been involved in the giving. It is wonderful to see the sharing and generosity that exist. With all of the wars, poverty, and life struggles in this world such a little event can have a drastic effect on hundreds of lives. This was very impactful and it assisted many families during the Thanksgiving holiday.

"Big Effort to Bring Holiday Meal to the OYATE | Www.lakotacountrytimes.com | Lakota Country Times." *Big Effort to Bring Holiday Meal to the OYATE | Www.lakotacountrytimes.com | Lakota Country Times*. Lakota Country Times, 28 Nov. 2013. Web. 04 Dec. 2013.